

# The Hillside Messenger

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## A Message from the Rector: *The Risen Lord's Appearance at the Sea of Galilee*

**T**he Sundays after Easter continue through May, and the last Sunday in May is Rogation Sunday. The Fifth Sunday after Easter is named Rogation Sunday because Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before Ascension Day, or Holy Thursday, are days of solemn supplication when the Church intercedes for the success of agriculture, industry, and commerce, and for all who labor in these occupations. It is significant that Rogation Sunday and the Rogation Days fall in Eastertide and immediately precede Ascensiontide, since the word "rogation" is derived from the Latin verb *rogare*, which means "to ask," and is one of our Lord's exhortations to His disciples in His farewell discourses (*St. John 14-16*):

And in that day ye shall ask Me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever

ye shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

*St. John 16:23-24*, KJV

Our Lord was speaking of the day of His resurrection, when their



hearts would rejoice again, and no-one would be able to rob them of their joy (*St. John 16:22*). Here He encourages His disciples to ask things of the Father, so that they may receive them from Him and their joy may be complete. It is very important for the disciples to know that they have direct access in prayer to God the Father through the Lord Jesus

Christ, and it is appropriate for the Church to teach this before the celebration of the Ascension of our Lord into heaven. Near the end of Eastertide, then, and just before Ascensiontide, comes Rogationtide, a short season of asking God for His blessing on agriculture, industry, and commerce. Of course, our Lord's encouragement of His disciples to lay their petitions before the Father does not relate only to the success of earthly pursuits and industries; it extends also to all aspects of life, including prayers for healing, for peace, for reconciliation, and for the rulers and leaders of the world.

Yet with the resurrection appearances of our Lord Jesus Christ come His commands to His disciples with respect to their own future ministry. In His passion predictions leading to His crucifixion, death, and resurrection, our Lord was emphasizing what God required of Him for the salvation of the world and that the call to disciple-

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## *The Risen Lord's Appearance at the Sea of Galilee*

ship involves taking up one's cross daily and following Him. In the resurrection appearances, the emphasis lies on what Christ's disciples must do to live out their calling. One example is the Great Commission in *St. Matthew* 28:

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

*St. Matthew*  
28:18-20, KJV

This command entails making disciples of people of all the nations of the world, which means sharing the Gospel and teaching the Christian faith, its doctrines, and the Lord's commands.

In *St. John* 21, when the Lord Jesus appears to His disciples at the Sea of Tiberias (Sea of Galilee), and commands them to

cast the net on the right side of the ship, we see further examples of the Lord's directions to His disciples. The miraculous draught of one hundred and fifty-three fishes (*St. John* 21:11) demonstrates the disciples' continuing need to always follow the Lord Jesus Christ's instructions and directions. The miracle also shows the love of the Lord for His people through His abundant provision. But after the disciples' breakfast with Jesus, which is another symbol of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the Lord asks St. Peter a probing question, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me more than these?" (*St. John* 21:15a, KJV). St. Peter replies that the Lord knows that he loves Him. The Lord asks him the same question three times. This might be because St. Peter had denied him three times during the Lord's trial before Annas and Caiaphas (*St. John* 18:16-27). In reply to St. Peter's affirmations of his love for the Lord, the Lord gives him three commands: To feed His lambs, tend His sheep, and feed His sheep (*St. John* 21:15-17). These commands gave St. Peter a leadership and pastoral role to teach and care for the Church. Then the Lord predicts St. Peter's passion and death on a cross, although He does not do so directly (another will gird him and carry him where he does not wish to go – *St. John* 21:18). Then the Lord adds,

"Follow Me." St. Peter now becomes concerned about what St. John would do. The Lord's reply indicates that St. John would live a long life, and yet, even if St. John were to live until the Lord's second coming (*St. John* 21:22), what is that to St. Peter? He must simply be concerned to follow the Lord.

It is this last command to St. Peter in the *Gospel According to St. John* with which we must be concerned. It is too easy to become concerned with too many other things, or with other people's lives, rather than focusing on following the Lord Jesus Christ. Wherever the Lord leads, we must follow. Therefore, we must always make sure that we find out where our Lord is leading us, what He wants us to do, and we must keep on doing what He wants us to do as long as He wants us to continue. To find these things out, we must pray daily, not only in the words of structured prayer, but in listening to the Lord in silence, reading Holy Scripture, meditating on it, and waiting on the Lord for His words to us. The Christian life is not about doing our own thing but about fulfilling the Lord's will every day of our lives.

– *The Reverend*  
*Chris Parrish*



## The God Who Speaks

What do you think is the most repeated phrase in the entire Bible?

If you said, “Thus says the Lord,” you would be correct. It appears more than four hundred times.

The God of the Bible is not the stone-cold silent god of the ancient Greeks. He is not the Stoic or Epicurean Zeus, too busy enjoying the amenities of divine bliss to bother with humanity, shaving a few strokes off his short game on some distant galactic golf course. No. The God who exists is the God who speaks.

### My Personal Favorite Atheist

It is all too easy to take the fact that God speaks for granted. We need help from one of the most famous atheists of the twentieth century, the French existentialist Albert Camus (pronounced Ka-me-you).

Camus did not believe in a speaking God. Yet he is one of my personal favorite atheists. He did what so few atheists have been willing or able to do. He reckoned honestly with the implications for the human race if no speaking God exists. “When it comes to man’s most basic questions of meaning and purpose,” Camus said, “the universe is silent.”<sup>1</sup> We shout,

“Why are we here?” to the night sky, and the answer is crickets.

### The Absurdity of Modern Life

The implication is that “all human attempts to answer the questions of meaning are futile.... In a word, our very existence is absurd.” That absurdity of life in a silent cosmos was precisely the tough pill Camus offered us in his best novels.

*The Plague* shows us the nobility yet utter futility of fighting death and despair in a godless universe as a pandemic strikes a French colony in 1940s Algeria. *The Stranger* chronicles a post-Christian drifter killing an Arab on a beach, yet seeking no redemption because the categories of good, evil, guilt, and grace are nonsense in the absence of God. In *The Myth of Sisyphus*, Camus reboots the Greek tragedy of a man condemned to roll a boulder up a hill only to watch it roll back down again and again and again forever.

Camus offers a helpful, albeit depressing metaphor for modern man, the kind of ennui and unbearable absurdity that sets the protagonists of Mike Judge’s *Office Space*, David Fincher’s *Fight Club*, and Vince Gilligan’s *Breaking Bad* on their respective antihero paths to cyber fraud, corporate terrorism, and meth cooking.

### ‘A Disillusioned

### and Exhausted Man’

Something astounding happened to Camus, something that has everything to do with a God who speaks.

In the 1950s a New York Methodist pastor named Howard Mumma was guest preaching at a church in Paris. Mumma noticed a mysterious figure in a dark trench coat circled by admirers. It was none other than Albert Camus, mid-twentieth-century international atheist celebrity, and a self-described “disillusioned and exhausted man.” He confessed that he had never read the Bible himself, and Mumma agreed to be his tour guide through the text. What followed was a friendship that lasted five years, Mumma visiting Paris and Camus visiting New York City to explore the possibility that God has spoken.

Camus confided in Mumma,

“[When] I wrote *The Myth of Sisyphus*... [and] my first novel, *The Stranger*, I tried to show that all human attempts to answer the questions of meaning are futile.... In a word, our very existence is absurd.... So, what do you do? For me, the only response was ... to commit suicide, intellec-

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<sup>1</sup> All quotes are taken from Howard Mumma, *Albert Camus and the Minister* (Brewster, MA: Paraclete, 2000).



## The God Who Speaks

tual suicide or physical suicide. ... To lose one's life is only a little thing. But, to lose the meaning of life, to see our reasoning disappear, is unbearable. It's impossible to live a life without meaning."

### Striving for the Faith

Then came a moment no one saw coming. Camus, famed atheist, asked Mumma if he could be baptized. Given his celebrity status, Camus had only one condition. The baptism must be private, behind closed doors. That way no paparazzi, no protesting atheists, no opportunist Christians could exploit Camus's sacred sprinkling.

Mumma kindly explained that the very concept of a private baptism was a contradiction in terms, an oxymoron like "jumbo shrimp," "crash landing," or "soft rock." Baptism is a public sacrament, a visible declaration of one's new identity in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Camus said he would consider it. They parted ways. Camus died a couple of weeks later in a car crash. His final words to Mumma were, "I am going to keep striving for the Faith."

The man who wrestled so desperately with the silence of the universe

saw a ray of hope that the God who made the universe is not silent.

### "Thus says the Lord."

Dear friends, do not take those four words lightly. Don't miss their life-or-death profundity. Run the depressing thought experiment. If there is no speaking God, then what have you got? How would you begin to answer the existential questions that seize us in our most sober (and often in our least sober) moments?

Science can answer questions about *how* the universe works. But science cannot answer a single *why* question. Thank God for science, but no amount of science, much less entertainment, alcohol, orgasms, income, or obsessive self-analysis can extinguish the burning *why* questions.

### Don't Sell Your Soul

We might be tempted to delegate the answers to *why* questions to the politicians. Yet the twentieth century's hundred-million-plus casualties of totalitarian megalomaniacs unite like a chorus of ghosts to shout, "Resist! Don't sell your soul!"

We might then be tempted to take the inward turn. The universe may be silent and the ideologies may lie, but our hearts can show us the way. "The answers are within" is the kind of advice offered either by

those selling something by stroking your ego or those who have never plunged deep enough within to behold the contradictions and corruptions that lurk in our depths. The human heart is "deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" (*Jeremiah 17:9*, NIV).

Thankfully, "God is not man, that He should lie" (*Numbers 23:19*, ESV). "Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations" (*Psalms 119:89-90*, NIV).

Because God exists and God speaks, our quest to answer *why* questions does not leave us cosmically alienated and pondering a noose in Camus' silent universe. Deep trust becomes possible, a trust in something or rather *Someone* infinitely more trustworthy than scientists, politicians, and everyone else, including ourselves.

Camus was right that "human attempts to answer the questions of meaning are futile." Yet, your existence is not absurd. Your quest is not doomed. You *have purpose* because you were created *on purpose* by a *purpose-driven God*. "All things," which would include you, "were created through Him and for Him" (*Colossians 1:16*, ESV).

## The God Who Speaks

God's purpose-illuminating words can be accessed whenever you want and with greater ease than anytime in human history. Bibles are no longer under lock and key in the Latin Vulgate that average folks couldn't understand. Today at least some Scripture can be found in 3,589 languages (and counting). A ten-second app download can put hundreds of translations at our fingertips.

### Revere God

We revere God when we take His Word seriously. Such reverence has a proven positive impact.

When researchers Arnold Cole and Pamela Caudill Ovwigho polled forty thousand people ranging from eight to eighty years old, they made some unexpected discoveries. People who

read their Bibles once or twice a week experienced no benefit over those who never read their Bibles. At three times a week, some minor gains were detected. But with at least four times of reading Scripture per week, everything seemed to spike.

- Sharing their faith skyrocketed 200 percent.
- Discipling others jumped a whopping 230 percent.
- Feelings of loneliness dropped 30 percent.
- Anger issues dropped 32 percent.
- Relationship bitterness dropped 40 percent.
- Alcoholism plummeted by 57 percent.

- Feelings of spiritual stagnancy fell 60 percent.
- Viewing pornography decreased 61 percent.

Do you battle a sense of purposelessness as Camus did in his silent universe? Do you feel lonely, lost, or stuck? Thankfully, God is not silent. Open a Bible and hear your Maker speak.

Adapted from  
***Revering God:  
How to Marvel  
at Your Maker***  
by Thaddeus J. Williams, published in *Bible Gateway News* January 20, 2025.



## Great Commission Campaign

We have just celebrated Easter Sunday. I referred to GotQuestions.org to find out Easter's origins. Easter is the annual celebration of Christ's resurrection to life after His crucifixion and death. The day is also called Resurrection Sunday. The word *Easter* is related to the word *east*, which naturally points us to the sunrise, to new days and new beginnings.

New beginnings. I love that! We have an opportunity to start again. With Jesus Christ we have an offer of redemption, a chance to start over and do better. That is an amazing thing and very overwhelming. A relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and His presence in my life and yours gives us all the gift of His grace. That is priceless.

Personally, I really love and look forward to the special holidays in the liturgical calendar. It marks important days that remind us to celebrate the moments in Christ's life. When we read Scripture and celebrate the events in our Lord's life in our worship service, it gives us a chance to change our own lives to be more like His. All these moments are written in the Holy Bible. The Bible is the book that gives us directions on how we as Christians need to live.

So here is Step Six:

### READ THE BIBLE.

The Bible is amazing. It is God's Word to humankind. It actually gives us the opportunity to see and know God. It gives us insight to what He wants from us and how we should live our lives. The Bible is one book that is invaluable, and I think it needs to be in everyone's library. It doesn't just add class and distinction to the shelves, it is an indispensable reference for daily life. The Bible shows how we need to care for ourselves and how to treat each other.

I ask that you take time to read some chapters and verses yourself. I think you will find that the words written so many years ago really do pertain to you today.

To start, the first thing I think of is the Ten Commandments (*Exodus 20*). These ten rules are the basis of our criminal justice system. This is the glue that keeps us civilized people. It also explains how we are to treat each other. The Ten Commandments deal with our relationship with God and then our relationship with other people. One naturally flows out of the other. Without a right relationship with God, our relationships with others will not be right, either. The cause of the world's problems is that man needs to be reconciled to God. We will never love our neighbor

as ourselves if we do not first love God with all our heart, mind, and soul. All of man's best efforts toward world peace will fail as long as men are living in rebellion against God.

Jesus gives us two commandments that summarize all the laws and commands in Scripture. The first commandment was given when Jesus is asked which is the most important commandment by a Pharisee who was considered to be "an expert in the law" (*St. Matthew 22:34-36*). Jesus answered by saying, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commandments" (*St. Matthew 22:37-40*). Related to these commandments is the "Golden Rule": Do unto others as you would have them do unto you (*St. Matthew 7:12*).

I can't help but think that reading the Bible gives us necessary structure. The stories show us examples of God's presence, His power, and His provision. Reading the Bible is an important part of keeping God central in our lives. The Bible teaches us by example God's intentions for us as His children. It strength-

## Great Commission Campaign

ens our relationship with Him. As our Father, He has given us the greatest gift that has ever been given: the opportunity to accept His Son Jesus as our Savior and have eternal life.

To recap and review the steps we are taking in our Great Commission Campaign:

Step One: PRAY.

Step Two: COMMITMENT.

Step Three: ATTEND CHURCH.

Step Four: GOD IS THE PRIORITY.

Step Five: SUBMIT.

Step Six: READ THE BIBLE.

— Julia McNeely



***All Scripture is God-breathed  
and is useful for teaching,  
rebuking, correcting,  
and training in righteousness,  
so that the servant of God  
may be thoroughly equipped  
for every good work.***

**II St. Timothy 3:16-17**

## Vestry Matters

**D**ear fellow Parishioners,

Welcome to the latest edition of Vestry Matters. And welcome to a New Year. It's hard to believe it's 2025 already but I trust and hope you had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. Here's the first article of the New Year, which I hope you'll find useful and enjoyable.

### **January 12th Vestry Meeting Summary**

Those in attendance: Jana Baldwin, Ray Boreham, Brandy Falcon, Elodia Fernandez, Julia McNeely, Bridgitte Parrish, Father Chris Parrish, Clark Patteson, and Deacon Peter Vogel.

Bookkeeper's Report (Deacon Vogel):

- The Church realized a net income of \$11,734.22 for the year 2024 thanks to a decrease in expenditures and an increase in contributions.

- Treasurer's Report (Elodia Fernandez):
- Cash In:
  - \* General Collections, Loose Plate and Maintenance Reserve exceeded budget
  - \* Total Cash In for 2024 was \$131,387.44.
- The Samaritan's Purse Community Mission Project collected \$2,100.00.
- Cash Out:
  - \* The quarterly Federal and State



## *Vestry Matters*

Taxes were paid in December.

- \* The Organist expense for the year was below budget.
- \* Repair and Maintenance Expenses for the year exceeded budget, but donations for Maintenance Reserve also had been more than expected
- \* Water costs were

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***Vestry meetings are usually held  
on the second Sunday of every month  
following the worship service,  
except for December,  
when no meeting is held,  
and February,  
when a short procedural meeting  
follows the Annual Parish Meeting.***

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higher than the budgeted amount.

- \* The Total Cash Out for 2024 was \$119,653.22.
- Checking Account Balance on December 31st was \$60,556.00, higher than \$52,567.43, the figure for January 31st. There were no withdrawals from the Cash Investment Account in 2024.

- The Investment Account increased by \$54,782.85, more than the previous year's increase.
- The Total Cash and Cash Investment of the Schwab Account was \$7,419.06. Deacon Vogel recommended investing the cash portion of the account.
- 2025 Budget Proposal:
  - \* Elodia explained the proposed budget for 2025 covering the various financial categories and accounts that make up the church's financial portfolio.
  - \* Overall, she anticipates a Net Operating Loss for 2025 of \$4,108.00, subject to change.
  - \* Details of the proposed budget can be provided on request for interested parties.

### **Junior Warden's Report (Clark Patteson):**

- Clark, Brandy Falcon, and Kathy Slattery had done some clean-up work in the Chapel yard.
- He had written to AT&T about changing the name they have on their records to our actual cur-

rent name. He included a copy of our Articles of Incorporation with the letter.

- The pipe from the Chapel building to the septic tank had been roto-rootered earlier that week and a knot of roots had been removed. It seems best to do this preventative maintenance every six months to avoid clogs resulting from an overflowing toilet. The Vestry approved the cost of \$300 per instance to get this done twice a year.

### **Altar Guild Report (Elodia Fernandez):**

- Elodia expressed gratitude to all the members of the Altar Guild for their ministry. Jana Baldwin thanked Elodia for all she does for the Altar Guild. Elodia asked the Altar Guild members to let her know if any of them could not be present to help on Maundy Thursday. Ray Boreham thanked all the Altar Guild members for their ministry.

### **Senior Warden's Report (Ray Boreham):**

- Ray expressed gratitude to Jana Baldwin,



## Vestry Matters

the Secretary, for sending out the letter giving notice of the next Annual Meeting.

Rector's Report (Father Parrish):

- ASA (Average Service Attendance) on Sunday, December 29th, 2024, was 17. The attendance at our Christmas Eve service of Holy Communion was 6, fewer than the attendance of 13 on Christmas Eve 2023.
- Father Darryl Fitzwater will be instituted as Bishop-Coadjutor of The Missionary Diocese of All Saints at the Church of the Ascension on March 21, 2025, at 6:00 PM.
- Clericus and Anglican Convocation of the West Synod will meet at Holy Cross Retreat Center in Mesilla, New Mexico, April 22-25, 2025: This event was announced by Vicar-General Penfield and appears in the Convocation newsletter. Both Bishop Lipka and Bishop Fitzwater plan to be there. There will also be a Clergy Wives' Retreat at the same time as the Clericus. Our Vicar-General encourages all clergy and lay delegates of each congregation to attend. It is likely that

one can attend the Synod portion of the event via Zoom. Our 2025 Budget should make provision for this event.

- Confirmation Class: Father Parrish plans to start a new class in January 2025. So far, Brandy Falcon, Tim Slattery, Mark Benjamin, and Rachel Jebaraj have indicated their willingness to attend this class. The Bishop Ordinary will be able to start parish visits after Easter 2025. MDAS will cover the cost of the Bishop Ordinary's flights and hotel accommodation.

Old Business:

- As part of the Vestry's prayers for and efforts to grow the church, Julia McNeely continues to work on improving the Chapel's signage,
- Julia McNeely suggested that since Niall Ferguson and his family would be returning in the summer, it would be good to have age-appropriate activities, such as Bible trivia, during fellowship hour after the service.
- Julia McNeely asked if anyone had read her articles in the newsletter, whose theme was "The Great Commission Campaign." The first

step in this process is to pray that we will fulfill Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations (page 4, *The Hillside Messenger*, December 2024). The second step, outlined on page 4, *The Hillside Messenger*, January 2025, is to make a

## Donations

If you're unable to join us in person but would like to make a donation to your church, please visit our website ([StLukesChapel.org](http://StLukesChapel.org)) and click on the DONATE button.

Thank you in advance for helping keep this beautiful sanctuary we call our spiritual home alive. All donations are tax-deductible and are gratefully received.

commitment to God to fulfill the Great Commission. The third step will be to attend church, and the fourth will be to set time with God as a daily priority

- We are constantly looking for new ideas to help grow our

## *Vestry Matters*

church. If anybody reading this has any other ideas or would like to help in this very important mission, please feel free to contact Father Parrish or any Vestry member or join us at an upcoming meeting to offer your ideas and suggestions in person. The more help and input we can get, the better. Thank you in advance.

### New Business:

- Next Quarterly Mission: It was agreed that the next quarterly Community Mission Project should help those who had suffered so much loss in the southern California wildfires. The

Vestry unanimously decided the next quarterly mission would collect funds for the World Central Kitchen.

- Crown Castle: In an email decision finalized on January 20, 2025, the Vestry unanimously decided not to allow Crown Castle to lower the monthly cell tower lease payment it makes to the Chapel.

...

I'd like to personally thank the Vestry members for all their continued hard work behind the scenes to keep our church functioning and available to all for all their spiritual needs. This is a vital, if unglamorous, ministry,

and we invite interested parties to consider serving. Please contact me or Father Parrish if at all interested. Interest does not imply obligation, and we will provide any information needed to allow prospective candidates to make a full and complete evaluation of the duties and possible time commitment involved prior to making any formal commitment.

We look forward to seeing you at a future service and/or meeting and I'll be back with you next month.

— Ray Boreham,  
Senior Warden



## Our Chapel Family Prayer List

**O** God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that Thou wouldest be pleased to make Thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray

for Thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to Thy fatherly goodness:

Archbishop Steve Wood,  
our Primate;

Bishop Darryl Fitzwater,  
our Bishop Ordinary;

Canon Michael Penfield,  
our Vicar-General;

Father Chris Parrish,  
our Rector;

Deacon Peter Vogel; and

Deacon Linda Bracken;

also all those who serve  
as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:

President  
Donald Trump; and

Governor  
Gavin Newsom;

as well as all those who  
are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; especially those for whom our prayers are desired:

the soldiers, sailors,  
marines, airmen,  
guardians, border patrol,  
coasties, police officers,  
firefighters, and pilots  
who protect us every day;

our persecuted Christian  
brothers and sisters  
throughout the world;

all refugees;

the leaders and people  
of Ukraine;

all those affected  
by wildfires in  
Southern California;

Trinity  
on the Border Mission  
and their neighbors  
as they recover from  
severe flooding in  
Harlingen, Texas;

Jim and Edna Davis;

Debbie;

Scott;

Brittany;

Tanya Theiler;

Mark Quinn;

Lisa;

Ben;

Marian;

Flo;

Max;

Dan and Kendra Pack;

the Stanko family;

Yoshihiko Ikegami;

Mary Frances Reaves;

Mrs. Kitt;

Jon Carter;

Linda Capone;

Rose Handwerker;

Ann and Frank MacVoy;

Bishop Ilgenfritz;

Moe Martinez;

Victoria Grace;

Christina;

John and Heidi Donnelly;

Carl;

Judith Boreham;

Heather;

Susan;

Helen Vanderberg;

Farshad;

Deacon Herman  
and Betty Roark;

Patrick Slattery;

Julie Sine;

the Slattery family;

James Kitchin;

Grace Driver;

Robbie Tavey;

Charlotte;

the Bouchard family;

Sara and Hesam;

Molly Ferguson; and

Catherine

and her students;

Bridgitte Parrish

that it may please Thee to  
comfort and relieve them,  
according to their several  
necessities; giving them  
patience under their sufferings,  
and a happy issue  
out of all their afflictions.  
And this we beg for Jesus  
Christ's sake. Amen.

***This prayer list  
was current as of  
April 30th,  
and the people  
of St. Luke's  
will pray  
for each need  
until  
we are notified  
that it has been met.  
Please contact  
Father Parrish  
to add  
or remove names.  
Thank you!***

## *A Prayer for the Middle East*

**G**od of all comfort and hope, Who in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, proclaimed good news to the poor, bound up the broken-hearted, and set the captives free: We remember before You this day all who are affected by the violence of October 7, 2023, and we ask You to heal the wounded, comfort those who mourn, and bring justice and peace to the land of Israel. Look with mercy upon the peoples of the Middle East, that, in Your great compassion, the light of Christ may shine in the darkness and bring hope to every nation. As Simeon rejoiced to see Your salvation, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel, so we pray that Jesus, the Messiah, would be known as the true hope for all the earth. May Your Kingdom come, and may Your peace reign in every heart, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*



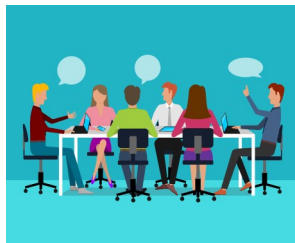
## *A Prayer for Our Congregation*

**O** GOD, Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray Thee, the Congregation of St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills with Thy love and favour; enlighten our minds more and more with the light of the everlasting Gospel; graft in our hearts a love of the truth; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same, O blessed Spirit, whom, with the Father and the Son together, we worship and glorify as one God, world without end. *Amen.*



## Parish Postings

The Vestry will meet on Sunday, May 11th, following Morning Prayer and fellowship to conduct the business affairs of the Chapel. The meeting is open to all interested parties.



Beloved Chapel Family, please note that the deadline for submissions to this newsletter is the 20th of the month. Our goal is to publish each issue as close to the first of the month as possible. Timely submissions make this goal attainable. Your editor sincerely thanks you!



Joanna's Prayer Circle will meet on Sunday, May 25th, following the worship service and fellowship. Members of this ministry pray daily as individuals for the needs of our Chapel Family and meet once a month as a group to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and pray at His direction. Join us!



Monday, May 26th, through Wednesday, May 28th, are Rogation Days. These three days of fasting and prayer are dedicated to asking God's blessing and protection of agriculture, fishing, industry, commerce, and the stewardship of Creation. The Litany (page 54 of the 1928 *Prayer Book*) may be prayed in observance of these days of solemn supplication, as may the following:

O gracious Father, You open Your hand and fill all living things with plenteousness: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; send forth Your breath, and renew the face of the earth; show Your loving-kindness, that our land may yield its increase; and save us from selfish use of what You provide, that the poor and needy may give thanks to Your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in His earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with Your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to Your will; and give us all a right satisfaction in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who declarest Thy glory and shonest forth Thy handiwork in the heavens and in the earth; Deliver us, we beseech Thee, in our several callings, from the service of mammon, that we may do the work which Thou givest us to do, in truth, in beauty, and in righteousness, with singleness of heart as

## Parish Postings

Thy servants, and to the benefit of our fellow men; for the sake of Him who came among us as One that serveth, Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O heavenly Father, who hast filled the world with beauty; Open, we beseech Thee, our eyes to behold Thy gracious hand in all Thy works; that rejoicing in Thy whole creation, we may learn to serve Thee with gladness; for the sake of Him by whom all things were made, Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



**The** Right Reverend Dar-ryle Fitzwater, Jr., Bishop Ordinary of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints, will make his first episcopal visit to St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills Friday, May 30th, through Sunday, June 1st. Please join your Chapel Family Saturday and Sunday to meet and welcome our new Bishop!

Saturday, May 31st  
5:00 PM

The Vestry will meet with Bishop Fitzwater in McNeely Hall to discuss their vision for our parish.

Saturday, May 31st  
6:00 PM

Our parish will host a potluck dinner in honor of Bishop Fitzwater's visit. Kathy Slattery is organizing the food donations, so please speak to her about what you are going to bring.

Sunday, June 1st  
10:00 AM

The First Sunday after Ascension will be a day of great joy for our congregation. Bishop Fitzwater will preach, confirm three of our siblings in the Faith, celebrate Holy Communion. Please come to bear witness to this special step in the spiritual development of Mark Benjamin, Brandy Falcon, and Rachel Jeba-raj.



**O**ur second-quarter community mission project is

to collect funds to contribute to International Aid, whose mission is to glorify Christ by responding to humanitarian crises and natural disasters in the United States and around the world. You may learn more about this organization and their work at:

[InternationalAid.org/](http://InternationalAid.org/)

Please write *IA* on your check memo line or offer-tory envelope when donating to this project. Thank you!

**The** Chapel's flagpole



was erected on the site of the original Old Purissima Schoolhouse water tower. The marker at the base of the flagpole was donated to St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills by the Los Altos Hills Historical Society on December 17, 2021. Members of this ministry raise and lower the flags before and after services. If you wish to join this ministry, please see Clark Patteson. Thank you!



## *Upcoming Events*

### **Sunday, May 4th**

The Second Sunday after Easter Day

*Holy Communion with Holy Unction*

10:00 AM

### **Sunday, May 11th**

The Third Sunday after Easter Day

Mothers' Day

*Office of Morning Prayer*

10:00 AM

*Vestry Meeting*

following worship and fellowship

### **Sunday, May 18th**

The Fourth Sunday after Easter Day

*Holy Communion*

10:00 AM

### **Sunday, May 25th**

The Fifth Sunday after Easter Day

Rogation Sunday

*Office of Morning Prayer*

10:00 AM

*Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting*

following worship and fellowship

### **Monday, May 26th**

Rogation Day

### **Tuesday, May 27th**

Rogation Day

### **Wednesday, May 28th**

Rogation Day

### **Thursday, May 29th**

Ascension Day

### **Friday, May 30th, through Sunday, June 1st**

Bishop Fitzwater's Pastoral Visit

### **Saturday, May 31st**

*Vestry Meeting with Bishop Fitzwater*

5:00 PM

*Parish Potluck Dinner with Bishop Fitzwater*

6:00 PM

### **Sunday, June 1st**

The Sunday after Ascension

*Holy Communion with the order of Confirmation*

10:00 AM





# *The Hillside Messenger*

A PUBLICATION OF  
ST. LUKE'S CHAPEL IN THE HILLS  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

A PARISH OF  
THE CONVOCATION OF THE WEST,  
PART OF THE  
MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF  
ALL SAINTS IN  
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH  
IN NORTH AMERICA

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«AddressBlock»

## *Worship Schedule*

# *St.*

Luke's Chapel in the Hills is a traditional Anglican parish which uses the 1928 edition ***Book of Common Prayer***. We invite you to join us for worship and fellowship soon!

*“A place  
where the Bible is taught.”*



*Biblical in teaching.  
Liturgical in worship.  
Loving in practice.*

### **First, third, and fifth Sundays of each month**

Holy Communion  
(with Healing Service on First Sundays)  
10:00 AM

### **Second and fourth Sundays each month**

Office of Daily Morning Prayer  
10:00 AM

Please note that Holy Communion will be celebrated on Feast Days occurring on second and fourth Sundays.

If you cannot join us physically in the Chapel,  
please contact Father Parrish  
to be added to each service's Zoom invitation.